

Arlington 2023 Annual Town Meeting

Amendment to Substitute Motion

ARTICLE NO. 12

Dated: May 4, 2023

I, Andrew Greenspon, do hereby submit the following AMENDMENT to the SUBSTITUTE Motion proposed by Beth Melofchik dated April 18, 2023, under Article 12.

I also propose applying this AMENDMENT to any other substitute motion put forth that still has the section "Moratorium" within it under a similar format.

Amend the introductory paragraph as such:

That Town Meeting hereby establishes an "Artificial Turf Study Committee" to be structured, organized and charged as outlined below; Town Meeting further decrees a temporary moratorium on the construction or installation of artificial turf on Town property as articulated below. The use of artificial turf upon the grounds of (1) Arlington High School, including Peirce Field, and (2) The Town of Arlington's Poet's Corner Park and any adjacent land that may be acquired by the town from private parties as part of future agreements regarding Poet's Corner shall be exempted from this moratorium.

Amend section "Moratorium" as such:

B. The use of artificial turf upon the grounds of (1) Arlington High School, including Peirce Field, and (2) The Town of Arlington's Poet's Corner Park and any adjacent land that may be acquired by the town from private parties as part of future agreements regarding Poet's Corner shall be exempted from this moratorium.

Comment:

This amendment allows the town to proceed with negotiations on a possible deal between Belmont Hill School, the Archdiocese of Boston, and Arlington Catholic High School for renovating the playing fields at Poets Corner and developing new playing fields on the land owned currently by the Archdiocese of Boston.

According to the town, any final deal would involve a land swap that would require separate town meeting approval at the Special Town Meeting in Fall 2023. At that meeting, town meeting members could assess a potential nearly finalized agreement on Poets Corner and vote up or down on the required land swap. Belmont Hill School and the Archdiocese of Boston have said in public meetings about the proposal that the deal requires some type of artificial turf to be used in the plans.

The remaining moratorium still conveys to the town staff not to consider any future artificial turf elsewhere in town while a study committee assesses more thoroughly potential hazards.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Andrew Greenspon
Andrew Greenspon
Precinct 5

Date Voted: _____

Action Taken: _____